

SENATE BILL

No. 2

**Introduced by Senator Alarcon
(Principal coauthor: Senator Burton)**

January 14, 2002

An act to amend Section 1280 of the Unemployment Insurance Code, relating to unemployment insurance, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 2, as introduced, Alarcon. Unemployment insurance: benefits compensation.

Under existing law, for new claims filed on or after January 1, 1992, and prior to January 1, 2002, the weekly unemployment compensation benefit for an individual whose highest wages in the quarter of his or her base period exceeded \$4,966.99 is 39% of those wages divided by 13, not to exceed \$230. In the case of new claims filed with an effective date beginning on or after January 1, 2002, and prior to January 1, 2003, the weekly benefit amount for individuals whose highest wages in the quarter of his or her base period exceeds \$2,781.99 is 45% of those wages not to exceed \$330.

This bill would, instead, apply this provision to existing and new claims filed on or after September 11, 2001, and prior to January 1, 2003. This bill would also state the intent of the Legislature that certain provisions of the bill be construed to allow the benefit period of a qualified unemployed person, as defined, to run from the date that the qualified unemployed person became unemployed, as provided.

Because these provisions would increase the amount of unemployment compensation paid, these provisions would increase the

amount payable from the Unemployment Fund, a continuously appropriated special fund, and thereby would make an appropriation.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: ²/₃. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1280 of the Unemployment Insurance
2 Code is amended to read:

3 1280. (a) For any new claims filed with an effective date on
4 or after January 1, 1992, and prior to ~~January 1, 2002~~ *September*
5 *11, 2001*, an individual's weekly benefit amount is the amount
6 appearing in column B in the following table opposite that wage
7 bracket in column A that contains the amount of wages paid to the
8 individual for employment by employers during the quarter of his
9 or her base period in which his or her wages were the highest.

10		
11	A	B
12	Amount of wages in	Weekly benefit
13	highest quarter	amount
14	\$900.00– 948.99	40
15	949.00– 974.99	41
16	975.00–1,000.99	42
17	1,001.00–1,026.99	43
18	1,027.00–1,052.99	44
19	1,053.00–1,078.99	45
20	1,079.00–1,117.99	46
21	1,118.00–1,143.99	47
22	1,144.00–1,169.99	48
23	1,170.00–1,195.99	49
24	1,196.00–1,221.99	50
25	1,222.00–1,247.99	51
26	1,248.00–1,286.99	52
27	1,287.00–1,312.99	53
28	1,313.00–1,338.99	54
29	1,339.00–1,364.99	55
30	1,365.00–1,403.99	56
31	1,404.00–1,429.99	57

1	1,430.00–1,455.99	58
2	1,456.00–1,494.99	59
3	1,495.00–1,520.99	60
4	1,521.00–1,546.99	61
5	1,547.00–1,585.99	62
6	1,586.00–1,611.99	63
7	1,612.00–1,637.99	64
8	1,638.00–1,676.99	65
9	1,677.00–1,702.99	66
10	1,703.00–1,741.99	67
11	1,742.00–1,767.99	68
12	1,768.00–1,806.99	69
13	1,807.00–1,832.99	70
14	1,833.00–1,871.99	71
15	1,872.00–1,897.99	72
16	1,898.00–1,936.99	73
17	1,937.00–1,975.99	74
18	1,976.00–2,001.99	75
19	2,002.00–2,040.99	76
20	2,041.00–2,066.99	77
21	2,067.00–2,105.99	78
22	2,106.00–2,144.99	79
23	2,145.00–2,170.99	80
24	2,171.00–2,209.99	81
25	2,210.00–2,248.99	82
26	2,249.00–2,287.99	83
27	2,288.00–2,326.99	84
28	2,327.00–2,352.99	85
29	2,353.00–2,391.99	86
30	2,392.00–2,430.99	87
31	2,431.00–2,469.99	88
32	2,470.00–2,508.99	89
33	2,509.00–2,547.99	90
34	2,548.00–2,586.99	91
35	2,587.00–2,625.99	92
36	2,626.00–2,664.99	93
37	2,665.00–2,703.99	94
38	2,704.00–2,742.99	95
39	2,743.00–2,781.99	96



1	2,782.00–2,820.99	97
2	2,821.00–2,859.99	98
3	2,860.00–2,898.99	99
4	2,899.00–2,937.99	100
5	2,938.00–2,989.99	101
6	2,990.00–3,028.99	102
7	3,029.00–3,067.99	103
8	3,068.00–3,106.99	104
9	3,107.00–3,158.99	105
10	3,159.00–3,197.99	106
11	3,198.00–3,236.99	107
12	3,237.00–3,288.99	108
13	3,289.00–3,327.99	109
14	3,328.00–3,379.99	110
15	3,380.00–3,418.99	111
16	3,419.00–3,470.99	112
17	3,471.00–3,509.99	113
18	3,510.00–3,561.99	114
19	3,562.00–3,600.99	115
20	3,601.00–3,652.99	116
21	3,653.00–3,704.99	117
22	3,705.00–3,743.99	118
23	3,744.00–3,795.99	119
24	3,796.00–3,847.99	120
25	3,848.00–3,899.99	121
26	3,900.00–3,938.99	122
27	3,939.00–3,990.99	123
28	3,991.00–4,042.99	124
29	4,043.00–4,079.99	125
30	4,080.00–4,116.99	126
31	4,117.00–4,153.99	127
32	4,154.00–4,190.99	128
33	4,191.00–4,227.99	129
34	4,228.00–4,264.99	130
35	4,265.00–4,301.99	131
36	4,302.00–4,338.99	132
37	4,339.00–4,375.99	133
38	4,376.00–4,412.99	134
39	4,413.00–4,449.99	135



1	4,450.00–4,486.99	136
2	4,487.00–4,523.99	137
3	4,524.00–4,560.99	138
4	4,561.00–4,597.99	139
5	4,598.00–4,634.99	140
6	4,635.00–4,671.99	141
7	4,672.00–4,708.99	142
8	4,709.00–4,745.99	143
9	4,746.00–4,782.99	144
10	4,783.00–4,819.99	145
11	4,820.00–4,856.99	146
12	4,857.00–4,893.99	147
13	4,894.00–4,930.99	148
14	4,931.00–4,966.99	149

15

16 If the amount of wages paid an individual for employment by
 17 employers exceeds four thousand nine hundred sixty-six dollars
 18 and ninety-nine cents (\$4,966.99) in the quarter of his or her base
 19 period in which these wages were highest, the individual's weekly
 20 benefit amount shall be 39 percent of these wages divided by 13,
 21 but in no case shall this amount exceed two hundred thirty dollars
 22 (\$230). If the benefit payable under this subdivision is not a
 23 multiple of one dollar (\$1), it shall be computed to the next higher
 24 multiple of one dollar (\$1).

25 (b) ~~For~~ *Notwithstanding subdivision (a), for existing claims on*
 26 *or after September 11, 2001, and for all new claims filed with an*
 27 *effective date beginning on or after January 1, 2002 September 11,*
 28 *2001, and prior to January 1, 2003, an individual's weekly benefit*
 29 *amount is the amount appearing in column B in the following table*
 30 *opposite that wage bracket in column A that contains the amount*
 31 *of wages paid to the individual for employment by employers*
 32 *during the quarter of his or her base period in which his or her*
 33 *wages were the highest.*

34

35	A	B
36	Amount of wages in	Weekly benefit
37	highest quarter	amount
38	\$900.00– 948.99	40
39	949.00– 974.99	41
40	975.00–1,000.99	42



1	1,001.00–1,026.99	43
2	1,027.00–1,052.99	44
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4	1,079.00–1,117.99	46
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11	1,287.00–1,312.99	53
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13	1,339.00–1,364.99	55
14	1,365.00–1,403.99	56
15	1,404.00–1,429.99	57
16	1,430.00–1,455.99	58
17	1,456.00–1,494.99	59
18	1,495.00–1,520.99	60
19	1,521.00–1,546.99	61
20	1,547.00–1,585.99	62
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22	1,612.00–1,637.99	64
23	1,638.00–1,676.99	65
24	1,677.00–1,702.99	66
25	1,703.00–1,741.99	67
26	1,742.00–1,767.99	68
27	1,768.00–1,806.99	69
28	1,807.00–1,832.99	70
29	1,833.00–1,871.99	71
30	1,872.00–1,897.99	72
31	1,898.00–1,936.99	73
32	1,937.00–1,975.99	74
33	1,976.00–2,001.99	75
34	2,002.00–2,040.99	76
35	2,041.00–2,066.99	77
36	2,067.00–2,105.99	78
37	2,106.00–2,144.99	79
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8	2,470.00–2,508.99	89
9	2,509.00–2,547.99	90
10	2,548.00–2,586.99	91
11	2,587.00–2,625.99	92
12	2,626.00–2,664.99	93
13	2,665.00–2,703.99	94
14	2,704.00–2,742.99	95
15	2,743.00–2,781.99	96

16

17 If the amount of wages paid an individual for employment by
18 employers exceeds two thousand seven hundred eighty-one
19 dollars and ninety-nine cents (\$2,781.99) in the quarter of his or
20 her base period in which these wages were highest, the individual's
21 weekly benefit amount shall be 45 percent of these wages divided
22 by 13, but in no case may this amount exceed three hundred thirty
23 dollars (\$330).

24 (c) For new claims filed with an effective date beginning on or
25 after January 1, 2003, an individual's weekly benefit amount is the
26 amount appearing in column B in the following table opposite the
27 wage bracket in column A that contains the wages paid to the
28 individual for employment by employers during the quarter of his
29 or her base period in which his or her wages were the highest.

30

31	A	B
32	Amount of wages in	Weekly benefit
33	highest quarter	amount
34	\$900.00– 948.99	40
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36	975.00–1,000.99	42
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38	1,027.00–1,052.99	44
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20	1,677.00–1,702.99	66
21	1,703.00–1,741.99	67
22	1,742.00–1,767.99	68
23	1,768.00–1,806.99	69
24	1,807.00–1,832.99	70

25

26 If the amount of wages paid an individual for employment by
 27 employers exceeds one thousand eight hundred thirty-two dollars
 28 and ninety-nine cents (\$1,832.99) in the quarter of his or her base
 29 period in which these wages were highest, the individual's weekly
 30 benefit amount shall be 50 percent of these wages divided by 13,
 31 but in no case shall this amount exceed the applicable of the
 32 following:

33 (1) For new claims filed with an effective date beginning on or
 34 after January 1, 2003, and before January 1, 2004, three hundred
 35 seventy dollars (\$370).

36 (2) For new claims filed with an effective date beginning on or
 37 after January 1, 2004, and before January 1, 2005, four hundred ten
 38 dollars (\$410).

39 (3) For new claims filed with an effective date beginning on or
 40 after January 1, 2005, four hundred fifty dollars (\$450).

1 If the benefit payable under this subdivision is not a multiple of
2 one dollar (\$1), it shall be computed to the next higher multiple of
3 one dollar (\$1).

4 SEC. 2. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting the
5 amendments to Section 1280 of the Unemployment Insurance
6 Code that those amendments be construed to allow a qualified
7 unemployed person's benefit year to begin on the date that the
8 qualified unemployed person became unemployed.

9 (b) For purposes of subdivision (a), "qualified unemployed
10 person" means a person who meets both of the following
11 conditions:

12 (1) The person became unemployed on or after September 11,
13 2001, and before January 1, 2002.

14 (2) The person did not file a claim for unemployment
15 compensation benefits on or before January 1, 2002, because that
16 individual sought the additional benefits that would have been paid
17 on or after January 1, 2002.

18 (c) It is the further intent of the Legislature to make the
19 payment of unemployment insurance benefit increases effective in
20 the most expeditious manner.

21 SEC. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the
22 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety
23 within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go
24 into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

25 In order that the appropriate level of economic relief may be
26 provided as soon as possible to California residents who lost their
27 jobs as a result of the recent economic downturn in America that
28 followed the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, it is necessary
29 that this act take immediate effect.

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